

Mr. Nayar was quoted as saying that Pakistan's attack on the village of Doda was an act of retaliation for Indian massacres in the Pakistani state of Sindh. Nayar has been a vocal opponent of the Indian government's nuclear tests, according to the story. Now he is admitting that India has undertaken activities designed to destabilize Pakistan. This is part of India's drive for total hegemony in South Asia.

Unfortunately, Mr. Nayar's remarks ignore another aspect of Indian state terrorism: the tyranny it has inflicted on the Sikhs, the Christians of Nagaland, the Muslims of Kashmir and others. According to very credible numbers published by human-rights groups and the Punjab judiciary, the government of India has murdered more than 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, in excess of 200,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, almost 60,000 Kashmiri Muslims since 1988, and tens of thousands of Assamese, Tamils, Manipuris, Dalits, and others.

The State Department reported that between 1992 and 1994 the Indian government paid over 41,000 cash bounties to police officers for murdering Sikhs. Two Canadian journalists published a book called *Soft Target* in which they proved that the Indian government blew up its own airliner in 1985 just to blame the Sikhs.

In this light, the United States must declare India a terrorist state. We must then impose all the sanctions that we impose on any other terrorist state. This will be a good step towards ending the terrorism and restoring freedom to all the people of South Asia.

I submit the News India-Times article for the RECORD.

[From the News India-Times, Aug. 14, 1998]
KULDIP NAYAR FLEW FOR 'ANTI-INDIA'
REMARKS

NEW DELHI.—The recent statement allegedly made by Kuldip Nayar, veteran journalist and nominated member of the Rajya Sabha on the Doda massacre has created a furor in the country.

Nayar is now looked upon as a "treacherous, anti-national element" for suggesting that the massacre at Doda is only a retaliation by Pakistan for similar actions by Indian agents in Sindh.

The comment which has been so strong has even taken up editorial columns of the country's leading newspapers and magazines.

One such editorial piece has even called it a blasphemous statement and that patriotism has been turned into a dirty word by a "coterie of influential so-called intellectual."

It added that such a statement would not have been made even by a spokesperson of Pakistan's notorious Inter-Services intelligence as that would have indicated its involvement in the Doda massacres.

Meanwhile, American Friends of India condemning Kuldip Nayar have circulated a release questioning Nayar's credibility as a representative of the nation. "This preposterous action by Kuldip Nayar brings several issues into question. Can he be trusted to be our representative in the Upper House of the Indian Parliament? Isn't his allegiance undoubtedly toward Pakistan? How can he support this inhuman brutality against his own countrymen? Is his representation of the Indian people justified?"

It may be noted here that Nayar represents a lobby of so-called intellectuals that blames the Indian government for Pakistan-sponsored massacres in Kashmir, and vehemently supports the US Government protests

against the Indian nuclear tests. Does this lobby stand for India's unity or does it wish for its dismemberment?

Nayar and his fellow co-conspirators will do well to note that Kashmir is not about religion. It is about freedom of religion. We urge the government of India and the Indian National Human Rights Commission to treat the Kashmiri Pandits as "internally displaced people" and stress the importance of providing conditions for their safe return to the valley.

In light of such terrible tragedy of fellow Indians in Kashmir, Nayar should be expelled from the Rajya Sabha. We also urge the patriotic parliamentarians to take immediate action against Nayar for his treacherous and anti-national actions in the Rajya Sabha," the organization stated.

TRIBUTE TO ALAN B. FLORY

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 1998

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend Alan B. Flory upon his retirement as Yolo County Assessor. Mr. Flory has served the people of Yolo County in this position for twelve years and will complete his service in January 1999.

Alan received a B.A. in Business Administration from California State University, Sacramento. In addition, he has continuously sought to supplement his education and refine his skills by taking many management and real estate courses through the American Institute of Real Estate Appraisers, the University of California, and the California State Board of Equalization throughout his long career.

Alan began his public service career as an appraiser with the Sacramento County Assessor's office. He next served as a property tax advisor with the Marshall and Stevens Appraisal Company. During his tenure, he directed and developed property tax programs in Montana, New York, Canada, Colombia, and throughout South America. While in Canada, he authored a rural appraisal manual for the Province of Ontario.

Mr. Flory settled into his position with the California State Board of Equalization as a property tax appraiser for nineteen years. He directed state units that audited County Assessor Offices to determine the adequacy of their practices and procedures. These units were charged with the development of rules, regulations and procedural handbooks governing assessment practices and unity that provided guidance and training to county assessors and their staffs.

During his years as Yolo County Assessor, he has held numerous positions elected by his peers including: president, California Assessors Association; president, Bay Area Assessors Association; chair, Executive Committee California Assessors Association; chair, Legislative Committee California Assessors Association. Alan, as a member of the Assessors Association Committee, put his finesse with numbers and his negotiating experience to practice and assisted in settling a property tax dispute between public utility companies and counties. His leadership helped broker a settlement that would have cost the State of California a revenue loss of \$1.7 billion.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank Alan for his years of friendship and wise counsel, and to wish him the best in his new position as a trustee of the Yuba Community College District. Alan has been a real asset to the people of my congressional district. Alan exemplifies a model public servant. I congratulate and wish him well on his next adventure.

HONORING THE MELHA SHRINERS OF GREATER SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS ON THE CELEBRATION OF THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 1998

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor the Melha Shriners of the Springfield area on the celebration of their 100th anniversary.

The Melha Shrine is a fraternal organization composed of two dozen units and clubs—ranging from its Shriner Clowns, Directors, a Military Band and Hadji (the familiar "little cars") to the Vintage Autos and an Oriental Band.

Melha began when Charles H. Miller and other Shriners, who were Springfield residents but belonged to Boston's Aleppo Temple, decided to form their own Temple in Springfield in 1897; they received their charter in 1898. They went through many meeting places until finding Hibernian hall where they met for the next 38 years.

In the 1920's, Melha acquired 7.5 acres of property in Springfield as the potential site for one of the Shriners Hospitals. The hospital's committee was met with such pride and enthusiasm from the Melha Shriners, it is said to have melted to hearts of the committee and the Springfield site was selected. Melha and the hospital have been intertwined ever since. The Shrine currently operates 19 orthopedic, burns and spinal-cord injury hospitals for children free of charge, and conducts important research as well.

During the post World War II economic boom, the financial and economic outlook for the Melha Shriners was very optimistic. In 1955, the Melha decided that an indoor circus would be a worthwhile endeavor. That was the beginning of the annual Melha Shrine Circus, which has become a springtime tradition in Western Massachusetts. Parents bring their children to the circus they fondly remember seeing as youngsters themselves.

In the late 1950's, because of expanding membership the Melha Shriners moved their Temple to a new location, where they have thrived ever since. The Temple was not the only thing that needed updating and in the 1980's it was decided that the existing Springfield Shriners Hospital needed to be replaced. Because of the large amount of land owned by the Shriners the new hospital was built behind the old hospital. This allowed children to receive medical care without interruption.

The new state-of-the-art facility includes outpatient and inpatient services along with two operating theaters, an occupational therapy department and a gait lab. In 1996 a new cleft lip and palate clinic was added. Just this year the hospital has received approval for a